

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 153322
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/CCA:WSSMITH
APPROVED BY ARA:JBUSHNELL
SMITH
D-DLAMB
S/S-O:SGOLDSMITH

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O 160234Z JUN 78 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USINT HAVANA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 153322

NODIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS:PINS, CU

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS

REF: HAVANA 1608

1. SITUATION IS SAME AS DESCRIBED BY WAYNE SMITH TO GLASS-MAN LAST WEEK. VOGEL INDICATED TO US SOME WEEKS AGO THAT CUBANS WERE INTERESTED, BUT CUBANS THEMSELVES HAVE NOT APPROACHED US, NOR HAVE THEY MADE ANY CONCRETE PROPOSALS THROUGH VOGEL. WE NOTE, MOREOVER, THAT CASTRO TOLD VISITING CONGRESSMEN EARLIER THIS WEEK THAT HE COULD NOT CONSIDER RELEASE OF US PRISONERS AT THIS TIME BECAUSE IT WOULD NOT BE UNDERSTOOD IN CUBA. OUR OWN READING IS THAT IF CUBANS WERE INDEED INTERESTED IN EXCHANGE SOME WEEKS AGO, AS INDICATED BY VOGEL, THEY WOULD NOW, IN VIEW OF TENSE RELA-

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TIONS BETWEEN US, PREFER TO BIDE THEIR TIME.

2. YOU SHOULD ADVISE BELGIAN AMBASSADOR THAT MATTER HAS NOT BEEN DISCUSSED BETWEEN THE TWO GOVTS. WE SUGGEST THAT HIS APPROACH, IF MADE AT ALL, SHOULD PROBABLY BE EXPLORATORY IN NATURE, SIMPLY NOTING THAT POSSIBILITY OF EXCHANGE HAS BEEN RAISED IN THE PRESS AND ASKING IF THE

CUBANS IN FACT HAVE ANY INTEREST IN ONE.

3. FYI. MATTER OF EXPANDING ANY EXCHANGE TO INCLUDE ALL
FOUR AMERICAN PRISONERS FOR ALL THREE PUERTO RICAN NATION-
ALISTS IS STILL UNDER REVIEW.

CHRISTOPHER

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NNNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, PRISONER EXCHANGE, MEETINGS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, CAT-B
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Draft Date: 16 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions:
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Litigation Codes:
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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